

OAKHILL ROOTS



annual alumni newsletter

FALL 2015



REVISITNG SIX DECADES AT OAKHILL DAY SCHOOL

OAKHILL: RIGHT NOW

A LOOK AT THE PAST & A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

and 2014-2015 Annual Donor Report

Alumni Coordinator

Dorothy "Dot" Beckham



Dear Oakhill Alumni and Families,

On behalf of your Oakhill family, welcome back! My name is Dorothy Beckham and I am your Communications/Marketing and Alumni Relations Coordinator.

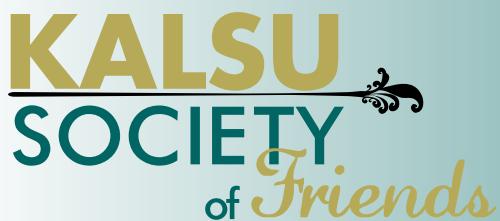
We have had a VERY exciting year here at Oakhill with many wonderful things on the horizon! I hope that this issue of ROOTS will not only recap last year and inform you about upcoming events, but will give you a wonderful glimpse into the history of Oakhill Day School... and how YOU had a part in where we are today!

Oakhill is a very significant part of your past and has shaped who you are today. Oakhill's mission is to "provide excellence in education through child-centered learning in a supportive, challenging, and rewarding environment that provides students with self-confidence, values, knowledge, and the foundation for leadership through emotional, physical, and social development."

No matter where you have landed since your days on campus at Oakhill Day School, we want to hear from you! Don't forget to keep in touch and keep us posted on any events, accomplishments and changes in your lives as well. "Like us" on Facebook at Oakhill Day School Alumni for the latest happenings with Oakhill and our Alumni.

Once a Panther, always a Panther - welcome back!

Dorothy Beckham
Communications/Marketing and Alumni Relations Coordinator



The Kalsu Society of Friends honors Oakhill alumni who make a gift to the annual fund. Inclusion in the Society will be renewed each year you make a financial gift to Oakhill Day School.

oakhilddayschool.org/online_giving



ANNUAL FUND
Oakhill Day School

The Class of 2015

Congratulations to the Oakhill Day School Class of 2015! Welcome to an elite group as Oakhill Day School Alums! We hope you will remain a prideful member of Oakhill and take full advantage of the great cultural and athletic programs that are open for all alumni. These events provide a great opportunity to connect with fellow Oakhill alums, share memories, and maintain relationships.

Wishing you all the best in your high school careers!

AudreyAnn Painter – The Barstow School

Jacqueline Eliza Barth – North Kansas City High School

Ella Marie Latier – St. Teresa's Academy

Katherine Elizabeth Puls – The Barstow School

Blaine Thomas Feaster – Park Hill South High School

Carrick J. O'Bleness – Park Hill South High School

Erin Nicole Peterson – North Kansas City High School

Mia Elisia Dozier – Park Hill South High School

Lilit Hripsime Zadoyan – Park Hill South High School

Isabel Jolene Miller Umali – Staley High School



Calling All Class Representatives!

By becoming a class representative, you agree to be the bridge between Oakhill and its alumni. Your job as class representative is very important. We hope that by accepting this duty, you will always be an advocate of Oakhill Day School to your fellow classmates/alumni, prospective families, and members of the community at large.

Representative responsibilities include:

- ❖ Updating contact information; such as mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses of fellow alumni upon notification of such changes
- ❖ Encouraging communication and participation in Oakhill Alumni events
- ❖ Gathering alumni data on a per class basis (including college acceptance, honors and awards, marriage, birth, illness, death, etc.)
- ❖ Keeping Oakhill current on the needs of its alumni community, such as summer or after school work, volunteer opportunities, and connections
- ❖ Assisting in future alumni fundraising and in various phases of planning for alumni events: ideas, planning, and implementation

Please contact Dorothy Beckham if you would like to be a class representative or if you would like more information.
dorothy.beckham@oakhilldayschool.org



If you have been around Oakhill for any amount of time, you have probably met the Eisler's. Jacob graduated from Oakhill in 2010 and is at the University of Missouri – Columbia. Jessica is a current 6th grader at Oakhill. Dad, Sean, has served on the Board of Directors for a number of years and Mom, Haley, can be seen on campus at least once a week. For the Eisler's, giving back to the Oakhill Community is part of their daily life. We sat down with the Haley to find out more!

VOLUNTEER extraordinaire



How long has your family been at Oakhill Day School?
This is our 16th year.

What made you decide to enroll Jacob at Oakhill?
We initially chose Oakhill because Jacob had just been diagnosed with diabetes and the thought of him going to a public school scared me. I wanted the small classroom and a registered nurse (which the public schools did not have), so he could be monitored closely. Additionally, at the age of four he was already reading and I wanted him to flourish. As his pre-k year went on, we realized we were right where we wanted to be. After a low blood sugar incident, teachers in the school I didn't even know were asking how Jacob was doing. The PE teacher was diabetic and he got Jacob a soda when he realized he didn't look right. We love how everyone looks out for everyone.

What was your first “volunteer job” at Oakhill?
My first “volunteer job” at Oakhill was in the library. I spent the summer before Jacob's pre-k year (while he was there for summer classes) making copies of the CIP page in every single library book so that we could computerize the library. The library shared a room with computers in Mrs. Robertson's current room.

During Jacob's pre-k year I helped catalog every book in the library into the new system. That next year I became co-chair of the library. A couple years later I became chair of the library and was solely responsible (with my co-chair) of setting the volunteer schedule, ordering books, curriculum, etc.

What areas are you currently involved as a volunteer at Oakhill?

I tend to go wherever I am needed. My biggest responsibility now is as library volunteer coordinator and cataloging all new books. I organize the volunteers for the fall and spring Book Fair and am there all day during the fairs. I also volunteer for Holiday Shoppe in December and Grandparents Day in October. And, last, but not least, I am auction catalog entry extraordinaire. Hee Hee Hee. (Don't really know official title...data entry maybe?) I catalog all items for the silent auction with description, values and photos.

Why did you decided to volunteer at Oakhill?

I initially got into volunteering as I was scared to leave Jacob at school since he was a newly diagnosed diabetic. He still needed a shot before he ate lunch, had snacks, and I needed to be around as he wouldn't let the nurse do it. The library was one place I could be every day. It kept me busy. They also had a Helping Hands Committee back then which did various jobs around the school, like painting teacher's rooms, building things, cleaning, and more. I enjoyed that, so I started hanging around more to serve there. That led up to meeting more people and getting involved with other committees.

Do you volunteer outside of Oakhill?

As for volunteering outside of Oakhill, I don't really have a lot of extra time. I do volunteer at KC Pet Project with Jessica. We have also done some volunteering at Synergy Services. I would love to do more but Oakhill keeps me busy!

What word of advice do you have for other parents and/or alumni who might be interested in volunteering at Oakhill?
As for advice... hmmmm... I would have to tell other individuals that any volunteer work done at Oakhill is extremely appreciated by all and is a rewarding experience. Our kids get so much from Oakhill and I feel like it's another way we can show our thanks. It's obvious our teachers do what they do because they love it. Oakhill is a school like no other. It is a family and you can't explain it unless you are there. You want to help in all ways possible once you get in and start volunteering. Just take that first step in the door with one committee and you will soon be

volunteering on several. I know I and many others were in the same boat. As for alumni, there are always things changing at Oakhill, especially this year with the new building. It's so neat to come back and see how things have changed and to imagine your kids or grandkids going to school where you went and telling them how you used to eat lunch in the classroom and so much more. I have even seen kids that were in middle school come back to work Kids Club or Summer Camp. It truly is a big family and I feel like that community will always be there with you your entire life. Therefore, I think it's so rewarding to volunteer no matter whether you have current kids there or not. It's all about taking care of your extended family. ♡



If interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities at Oakhill, please contact the Development Office at development@oakhilldayschool.org.

Coming Up at Oakhill

Take time to reconnect this year with Oakhill alumni at these exciting events!

Children's Auction

Wednesday, February 24, 3:30 – 6 p.m. at Oakhill Day School (Gymnasium)

Take part in the excitement surrounding our largest fundraiser, the Annual Auction, with a silent auction of children's items, fun and games!

Roaring Affair Auction

Saturday, March 5 at Embassy Suites KCI Airport

Join us for our largest fundraising event of the school year, The Roaring Affair Auction 2016. The event will take place again this year at the Embassy Suites off Tiffany Springs Parkway. Make plans to attend now!

Alumni Dinner

Wednesday, March 30

Great opportunity to catch up with fellow alumni and faculty/staff. Learn the latest about what's going on at Oakhill and share the latest with you. More details coming soon!

Trap Shooting Event

Sunday, April 10, 10 a.m. at KCATA

Join us for the 2nd annual Trap Shooting event. Chance to come out, enjoy the spring weather and shoot a few clay pigeons. Teams and sponsorships available!

Oakhill Acorn Day Celebration

Friday, April 22, 2:45 p.m. at Oakhill Day School

Coinciding with the Earth Day Celebration, this fundraising event supports the beautification of the school landscape and provides an opportunity for donors to honor or memorialize a special someone in their life.

8th Grade Graduation

Thursday, May 26 at Oakhill Day School

Come celebrate our 8th graders as they complete this milestone year with a look back on their childhood journey and a forward glimpse into their high school experience.



For more information and the latest with Oakhill Day School Alumni, like us on Facebook or contact Dorothy Beckham, at dorothy.beckham@oakhilldayschool.org or 816-436-6228.

VISIONS OF YESTERDAY REALITY TODAY

OAKHILL DAY SCHOOL

SOUTH CAMPUS

Wanda Lee Kalsu prepared her daughter Charlene for her first day of kindergarten on the perfect August day. This was a particularly big day for Wanda Lee. Charlene was a typical 4-year-old, eager and ready to learn; but although she was mentally ready for the challenge of school, her birthday said otherwise to her preparedness to start kindergarten in the public school system. Wanda Lee felt for her daughter and all of the other children missing the opportunity to start school because they were a few months too young. So on this perfect fall day in 1947, Charlene was preparing for her first day at Little Folks, a two-classroom learning program for four and five year old students that was founded through her mother's love of teaching.

The budding Little Folks quickly outgrew its leased classroom space in the basement of the Antioch Community Church. To buffer the growing pangs, Little Folks sought temporary refuge at both St. Charles Catholic and North Cross Methodist Churches before moving into its first purchased building at 300 NE 58th Terrace, Gladstone in 1961. This would become the first official true home of the school that would formally adopt the name Oakhill Day School in 1972. Through 30 years of Kalsu's guidance Oakhill flourished and grew to accommodate learners as young as preschool to those as old as third grade.



Before purchasing the North Cherry Street building, architects drew up plans to add 3,000-square-feet to the 300 NE 58th Terrace location with the hopes of being complete by the start of school in September of 1989.

In 1987, a feasibility study of the Northland showed that the area was in desperate need of a synagogue, a golf course, and a non-sectarian private school for students in grades preschool through eighth. This was the catalyst for Oakhill's next search for a larger facility. Through the hard work of parent volunteers, Oakhill hosted its first fundraising auction in 1987 raising \$13,000 that would be the cornerstone of the school's expansion fund.

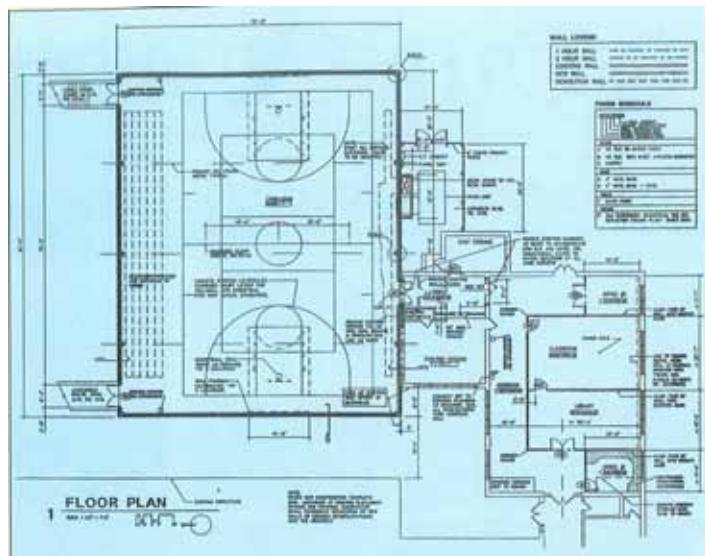
Purchased sight unseen from the North Kansas City School district, the Oakhill Board of Trustees purchased the current 7019 North Cherry Street location at auction in March 1989. Unoccupied for over 10 years, the building was in need of major repairs, despite its good bones. Volunteers worked tirelessly from May through August to get the structurally sound building ready to begin classes in the fall of 1989. Recognition to those generous benefactors whose contributions contributed to the completion of the North Cherry project is marked throughout the current Campus; Atha Hall named for Sally Atha and Dr. James Hall, Shaw Wing for Frank and Jolene Shaw, Peterson Library for Sue Ann Peterson, and Bownik Courtyard for Dr. Bryan Bownik.

In the decade to follow, through various accreditations, Oakhill gained recognition from the outside community



for the high standards in education that Wanda Lee put into place 50 years prior. In 1998, the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) awarded provisional accreditation to Oakhill, an accolade that solidified Oakhill's place as the first non-sectarian independent school in the Northland.

The new millennium at Oakhill brought the next phase of expansion. With enrollment numbers rising and expanding needs put onto the school by the increase in student body, Oakhill began a 7,500 square foot gym expansion. The approximately \$650,000 expansion included the current Oakhill gymnasium along with other building features that have come and gone, thanks to Mother Nature, including classroom space in Atha Hall and the Multi-media resource center.



The plans for the new gymnasium included a regulation size basketball court, two volleyball courts, a moveable stage, and bleacher seating for 500 people.

Fast forward to spring 2008. A great first year was ending for Head of School, Suzanne McCanles, and her eyes were set on the horizon. The Board of Trustees and Administration spent much of that year strategic planning to devise a plan to tackle the challenge of growing a school in a building that

was showing its age, and then... the tornado.

In the early morning of May 2, 2008, 125 mile per hour winds swept through Gladstone. In what the National Weather Service classified as an EF2 tornado, Oakhill found itself in the center of the destruction path loosing much of its roof, exterior HVAC units, gas lines, library, Multi-media Resource Center, early childhood playground, and more... all without warning. The devastation brought about quick response on part of the Board of Trustees and Administration to finish the school year and continue with Oakhill Summer Days at Antioch Bible Baptist Church, while rebuilding the school to start in 108 days.



Along with serious wind damage to the roof, Early Childhood playground, and HVAC units, Oakhill sustained over \$72,698 in technology loss, destroyed over 8000 library books due to water damage, and relocated for 109 days during reconstruction.

The 2008-2009 school year opened to \$1.7 million in building renovations that included a new roof, gas and electrical systems, HVAC units, renovated classrooms, new paint, carpet, a new commons area, updated security systems, and new technology including computers. While Oakhill did not plan these renovations, they did align with the capital plans devised through strategic planning earlier in the year. Through the assistance of generous donors and insurance money, the renovation timeline pushed ahead spawning four years of facility renovations leading to the eventual purchase of a new building that would create the new Oakhill Campus.

A \$750,000 courtyard enclosure project giving Oakhill its current library, Panther Power Place, and additional classroom space followed the tornado project. After that, subsequent years of renovations would include a \$250,000 bathroom addition, new tile and carpet in all classrooms, updated technology, the revitalization of the campus exterior, and the lease of the current South Building for Grades 3 and 4, all leading us to today.

Oakhill took its first major step in making 9-years of capital planning a reality with the purchase of the 54,000-square-foot Gladstone Office Building on the south corner of 70th and North Holmes. Along with the building purchase, Oakhill is moving forward with existing renovation plans to the existing building at 7019 North Cherry Street that will increase the buildings footprint by over 8,000-square-feet. The increase in programming and the “dreams” that will come to fruition through the recent capital acquisition and proposed improvements are possible through the collaborative efforts of current Oakhill families, alumni, grandparents, faculty, staff, Board of Trustees, friends, and community partners. The future of Oakhill has never been any clearer than it is today and as the school sits just a couple of years away from its 70th anniversary, Wanda Lee would be proud of the path taken. ♫



Several additions were made to the existing building between the 2009-2010 school year and today. In a project completed over the summer of 2013, the north bathroom addition was a most welcomed addition to the Oakhill facility.

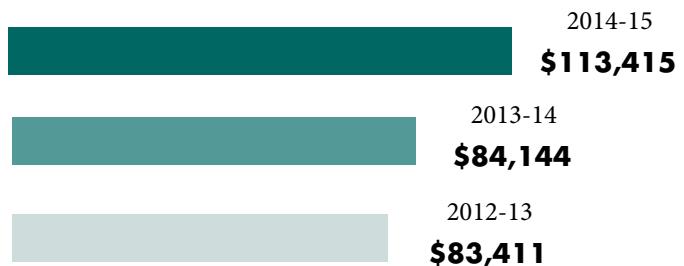


2014-2015 HIGHLIGHTS

Annual Report of Giving



ANNUAL FUND OVER 3 YEARS

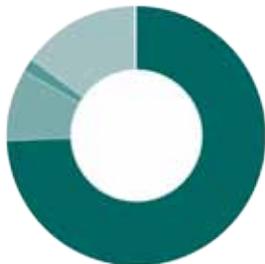


FINANCIALS

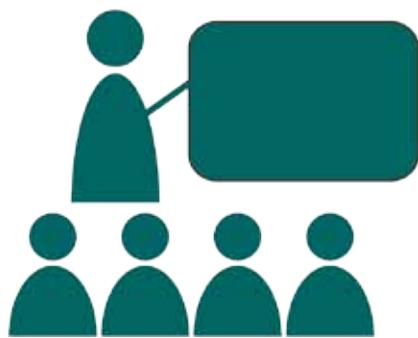
2014-2015 UNAUDITED

Income

Tuition and Fees	74.55%
Fundraising	9.03%
School Events	1.59%
Extracurricular Programs	14.79%
Other	.04%
Total Income	\$3,739,515.09

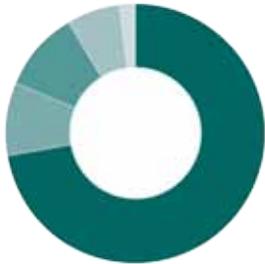


11:1



Expenses

Personnel	72.40%
Curriculum	9.05%
Facilities and Utilities	10.16%
Administrative	6.45%
Other	1.93%
Total Expense	\$3,892,233.66



AVERAGE
STUDENT/FACULTY
RATIO*

*RATIO VARIES PER DIVISION
NOT TO EXCEED 16:1

232

NUMBER OF
ANNUAL FUND
DONORS



\$ **175,000**

AWARDED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



INCREASE OF STUDENT BODY
FROM 2013-2014 TO 2014-2015

7%

Annual Report of Giving 2014-2015



I would like to thank everyone who supported Oakhill Day School this past year – current and past families, alumni, grandparents, faculty, staff and friends. Support comes in many forms: giving time and expertise, assisting at the school, chaperoning trips, serving on committees, planning school events, and donating to the Annual Fund and various fundraising efforts.

The generosity, philanthropy, and spirit of volunteerism across our entire school community inspires and drives our continued growth and progress. We all share the same vision and goals – to give our students the best overall education we can deliver. The students benefit from your investment in the school, establishing a pattern for them to emulate as they become leaders of the future – making Oakhill a priority.

I thank you for your generous contributions of time, talent and resources. We hope to see 100% faculty/staff, Board of Trustees, and parent participation this school year. Exciting happenings are on the immediate horizon! This will be an unforgettable year!

Deeply appreciative,

Suzanne McCanles
Head of School



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Annual Report of Giving



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Secretary

Lee Miller

Matt Brown

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Michael Morris

Eddy Saylor

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Head of School

Suzanne McCanles

Director of Finance

Sarah Van Duser

As a parent of 3 children that have been at Oakhill since early learners, I am amazed at the growth that our school has experienced.

As a Trustee, I am very excited about the previous year and what's on the horizon, including the addition to the new middle school. I want to say thank you for all of the hard work the Board of Trustees on the building committee have put into this project – they have put in long hours dealing with architecture's and engineers getting the plans ready for a winter construction start.

I want to commend our Head of School, Suzanne McCanles, on wearing many hats during this time to help facilitate the additional space for middle school and construction at our existing structure. With the addition of the new building and a multi-purpose addition to the east of our current structure, we will need the entire Oakhill

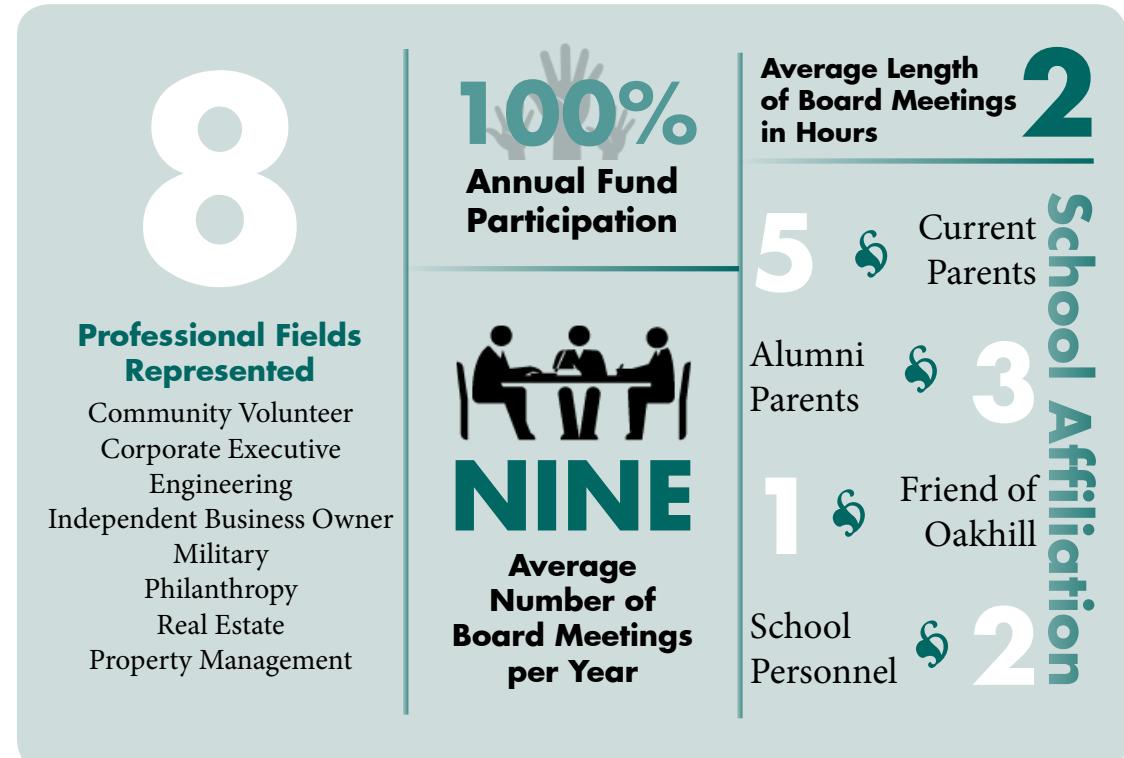
community's support for the RIGHT NOW Capital Campaign.

Let's not forget the Annual Fund. This important Development drive helps fill the gap between tuition and the actual cost to educate.

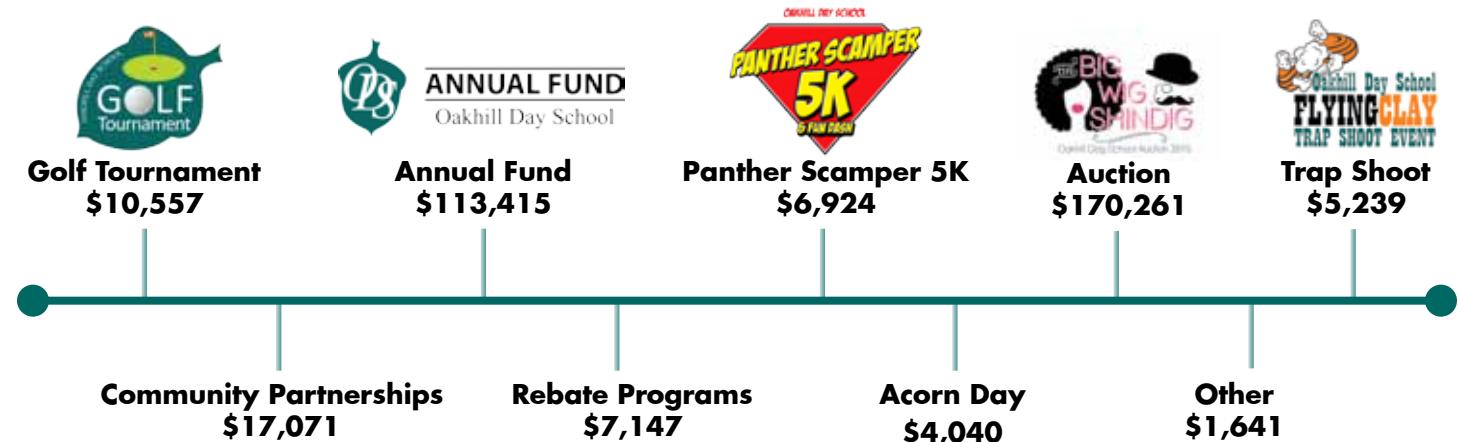
Oakhill will be a state of the art school to educate the whole child, meeting the needs of all current and future Oakhill students. The Board of Trustees thanks you for your past support and your future support of Oakhill Day School.

Dennis Carter
President, Board of Trustees

BOARD BY NUMBERS



Annual Report of Giving



MESSAGE FROM THE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



Oakhill Day School is entrusted with the task of helping children develop deep roots of responsibility and strong traditions that will carry them through the early years of their educational journey.

The Oakhill Day School Annual Fund supports the classroom today, while setting the foundation for Oakhill's future. Everything from the tangible like technology and student desks, to the intangible, like the teaching hours spent supporting students creating an award winning public service announcement or encouraging a shy student to love the bright lights of the stage.

Your generosity is the cornerstone of all great things at Oakhill Day School. Contributed Annual Fund revenues are a hallmark of a private, independent day school, and I want to invite you, as alumni, as former and current parents and as friends of Oakhill, to participate in the Annual Fund.

Please remember that your Annual Fund donation is 100% tax-deductible.

Sincerely,
Rebecca DiGerlamo
Director of Development

"The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence."

- Denis Waitley

2014-2015 LIST OF DONORS

Annual Report of Giving

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David and Marcy Driskill

Dustin and Shelby Durand

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Ron Gregg and Michelle Dew

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Jeremy and Judy Yi

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Anonymous

Laura Anderson

Pam Armato

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* Kalsu Society of Friends Alumni Donors C Curriculum Family of Funds A Arts Family of Funds S Athletics Family of Funds F Campus Family of Fund

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State Street Foundation
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Gifts in Memoriam

In Memory of Gene Feagles (on behalf of Lee Feagles)
In Memory of Martha & Lyle Springer (on behalf of Vinnie and Keddy Vaccaro)
In Memory of Russ & Kris Barker (on behalf of Vinnie and Keddy Vaccaro)

Gifts in Honor

In Honor of Mia Carpenter (on behalf of Glenn and Betty Miller)
In Honor of Maggie Colvin (on behalf of Kathryn Voss)
In Honor of Mia Dozier's 8th Grade Graduation (on behalf of Doc and Rosemary Jenkins)
In Honor of Morgan Murch (on behalf of Patricia Flinn)
In Honor of Avery and Kendall Giles (on behalf of Sue Giles)
In Honor of The Class of 2015 (on behalf of Leah Gipe)
In Honor of Lily and Ian Hamilton (on behalf of Marcia Hamilton)
In Honor of Jenna Hartmann (on behalf of Tyler and Shauna Hartmann)
In Honor of Holly Hawkins (on behalf of Mary Hawkins)
In Honor of Maximus Vokolek (on behalf of Nanci and John Henderson)
In Honor of Halle and Brandon Hamby (on behalf of Bill and Ann Legg)
In Honor of Sophia and Victoria Martin (on behalf of Sue Martin)
In Honor of Lily Clevenger (on behalf of Ronald McDonald)
In Honor of Mia Carpenter (on behalf Glen Miller)
In Honor of Wanda Lee Kalsu (on behalf of Robert Peterson)
In Honor of Liam Lingerfelt (on behalf of Thomas Rolli)
In Honor of Caleb Smith (on behalf of Josh Smith)
In Honor of Jack Since (on behalf of Marjorie Since)
In Honor of Avery Spooner (on behalf of Joan Spooner)
In Honor of Alex Tomeldan (on behalf of Lambert Tomeldan and Maria Nguyen)
In Honor of Stuart Yantis (on behalf of Barry Yantis)

* Kalsu Society of Friends Alumni Donors ~ C Curriculum Family of Funds ~ A Arts Family of Funds ~ S Athletics Family of Funds ~ F Campus Family of Fund

Annual Report of Giving 2014-2015 FUND-A-NEED

Attendees of the annual auction raise their paddles during the live event to help purchase items of the most need for the school. During the 2015 Big Wig Shindig Auction, Oakhill raised \$17,275 to purchase a Top Roll Gym Divider Curtain and a Beacon Line Array Portable Stereo System for the gymnasium thanks to the generosity of all those in attendance. The students and coaching staff are grateful to all who raised their paddle to donate to Fund-a-Need.

2015 Fund-A Need Contributors

Chris and Dorothy Beckham
Matthew and Janese Brown
Dennis and Jan Carter
David and Jackie Conkling
Sean and Haley Eisler
David and Erica Ferrara
Brad and Claudia Feaster
Harry Weston and Jane Ann Gorsky
Ron Gregg and Michelle Dew
Ryan and Dina Hamilton
Matthew and Haley Haar
Gregory and Colleen Horwitz
Zachary and Lori Kramer
Phil and Jennifer Latier
Eric Mangum and Miralda Moreno-Mangum
Kirk and Diane Marty
Kevin and Suzanne McCanles
Lance and Veronika McDonald
Ryan and Emily McNellis
Mike Middleton
Michael and Karen Morris
Scott and Rebecca Mountjoy
Tyler and Amanda Park
Chad and Kirsten Pickens
Robert and Lynn Rawson
Matthew and Bernadette Roché
Ed and Kathi Rule
Jason and Julie Rule
Derek and Ashley Smashey
Stephen Smith and Angie Tatum Smith
Dan and Mary Lee Sturdevant
Justin and Jennifer Teiwes
Matthew and Jennifer Waldman
Frank and Michele Yager



Items like the Top Roll Gym Divider purchased through Fund-a-Need donations help Oakhill Day School carry out its mission of excellence in the classroom by providing items that might not otherwise be purchased through the general operating budget.

Every sports team at Oakhill goes in as a group of individuals, and comes out a family. The bond I have formed with my teammates and coaches is surreal. The kind of ties that are formed at Oakhill are the kind that last a long time."

- Dasha McDonald, Grade 8

2014-2015 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Annual Report of Giving

Community Partners are businesses within and outside the Oakhill Day School community who financially support Oakhill Day School and its mission. These businesses consider Oakhill Day School to be a marketing opportunity while Oakhill Day School is able to utilize these funds to support programming.

Thank you to all of our community businesses who financially supported Oakhill Day School through the 2014-2015 school year.

MIGHTY OAK



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SPIRIT

**Hot Mix
Materials, Inc**

PANTHER



ACORN



Tradition
HOME GROUP
WHERE ALL ROADS LEAD TO SOLD!

PATRON



Since the Community Partnership program began in 2010, generous business have contributed over \$79,523 to Oakhill Day School!

Annual Report of Giving 2014-2015 ACORN DAY

Acorn Day is a collaborative effort between Alumni, Faculty, Students, Parents, Grandparents, and Friends of Oakhill. Through song, student poetry, and a ceremonial planting, the Acorn Day Celebration serves as the first event commemorating the end of the Eighth Grade Class' educational journey at Oakhill, as they pass down their legacy to the Preschool students just beginning their journey. Oakhill celebrated Acorn Day on April 17, 2015.

2015 Acorn Day Donor List

Jan Alexander
Pete & Elizabeth Anderson
Bill & Frances Baugher
Chris & Dorothy Beckham
Thomas & Caroline Broome
Mason & Ella Brown
The Carlson Family
Dean & Cindi Carter
Dennis & Jan Carter
Sandy & Dave Clarkson
Quentin & Dena Cole
The Conkling Family
Kendall & Leecil Culbertson
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Cuzner
Elijah & Lisa Davis
John & Sally Denton
Anonymous
Brianna Ely
The Feaster Family
George and Becky Feaster
John Filger
Brad & Becky Fisher
Landon Gallimore
Adrian & MaryJo Goettl
Ryan & Dina Hamilton
Jeff & Tracy Hiegert
Jerry & Linda Hurst
Ijaz & Seemal Kiani
The Kimmerle Family
Ella, Peyton and Logan Latier
The Lingerfelt Family
The Mallams Family
Smith & Elizabeth Manion
Kevin & Suzanne McCanles
Ronald McDonald
Anonymous
Angie Nash
Oakhill Day School
Ralph & Darlene O'Dell
The Park Family
The Peery Family

Bill & Peggy Quarles
Darrell & Gracie Roché
Ed & Kathi Rule
Jason & Julie Rule
Tammy Sakaguchi
The Shekleton Family
Brendan Smashey
Brett & Elaine Smith
Joan Spooner
Anonymous
Dan & Mary Lee Sturdavant
Cate Supinski
Lambert Tomeldan & Maria Nguyen
Jacque Vaughn
Helen Wills
Linda F. Wilson
Frank & Michele Yager
Barry Yantis



Carrick O'bleness (2015) and Berke Somasegaran (2025) help place soil around one of the many trees planted during the 2015 Tree Day Ceremony.

CLASS NOTES

HIGH SCHOOL

Noah Barth (2012)

Noah is a junior at North Kansas City and is part of the International Baccalaureate® program. Noah also traveled with his family this summer to London and Greece.



Alumni Steven Brady (2011) is also a member of the basketball team at St. Pius X High School.
(Pictured back row, 3rd from right)

Steven Brady (2011)

Steven graduated from St. Pius X High School and was part of the St Pius Men's swim team. His team won 2nd in the Independent League Conference and their times for 2 relays allowed them to go to State! Steven also holds the school record for the 200 freestyle after his best time this year in that individual event! He placed 2nd in that event at ILC. Steven was also a part of the basketball team.

Shannon Hulé (2013)

Shannon received an academic letter for her excellent GPA. She has maintained over 4.0 for all 4 semesters at North Kansas City High School so far, in the International Baccalaureate® program.

In her junior year at North Kansas City, this is her first year of the official IB (International Baccalaureate®) program. The first two years are called Pre-IB where they take all Challenge courses, to prepare for the real program. She will have international exams both at the end of this year and next year. Shannon has been consistently ranked no. 1 in her class of over 200 since her Freshman year. She is very modest and claims "that's the way the system works", there is more than one student with a rank of no. 1 - But what an awesome achievement!



Alumni Shannon Hulé (2013) has been consistently ranked no. 1 in her class of over 200 since her Freshman year at North Kansas City High School.

Max Gruschka (2013)

Max was selected for the 2015 Missouri Scholars Academy, a three-week academic program for 330 of Missouri's gifted high school sophomores. Max spent June 7-27 at the University of Missouri in Columbia with other high school sophomores from around the state working through this opportunity. Max is a junior at Oak Park High School this fall.

Brady McCanles (2014)

In his sophomore at Rockhurst High School, Brady is a starting safety

and special teams on his school's Varsity football team. In addition, he occasionally plays tailback/wide receiver. Brady enjoys playing for Coach Severino while maintaining a 4.3 GPA.



Alumni Brady McCanles (2014) enjoys playing on the varsity football team as a sophomore at Rockhurst High School.

Kayla Roesner (2013)

Kayla and her family moved to Chicago after she graduated from Oakhill. Last spring, Kayla had the opportunity to visit Kansas City for dinner with Mrs. G. In Chicago, Kayla is a member of Future Educators and tutors elementary grade students as a part of this organization.

Ellaina Sanders (2013)

Ellaina is currently a junior at Pembroke Hill. Oakhill Day School provided Ellaina with the readiness and foundation for the transition into high school to be an easy one. Learning time management and the importance of striving to do your best, have served her well in her first three years at Pembroke. She has received High Honors every quarter and just recently received the Head Masters Distinctive Achievement. This award is presented by the school faculty to recognize students who demonstrate a commitment to learning, positive attitude and enthusiasm for the subjects.

As a freshman, Ellaina participated in Cross Country, Swimming and Track, qualifying for State in Cross Country. This year she participated on both the Swimming and Track teams, qualifying for State Swim in the 200IM. Ellaina says that she "misses her classmates from Oakhill and the fun they had together. I am thankful for what the teachers taught me in the classroom and what I learned about myself."

Park Hill South Alumni

The following Oakhill alumni were recognized at The Park Hill South Academic Ceremony on September 24, 2015.

Quinlan Batcheller
Benjamin Becker
Leah Booth
Suzanne Brown
Logan Card
Matthew Cuzner
Harrison Feaster
Katherine Herrera
Alexander Lee
Daniel Miller
Cameron Koeniguer
Evan Morris
Trent Neutgens

COLLEGE



Alumni Megan Carter (2006) made Paris, France one of her getaway stops during her semester abroad in London.

Megan Carter (2006)

Hello Oakhill family! I'm a junior at Loyola University Chicago, majoring in

theatre, but this semester I'm on a big adventure across the pond!

Since late August, I've been studying at the London Dramatic Academy, a semester-long program for American acting students. We spend five days a week in conservatory-style actor's training, studying everything from dialects to Shakespeare to stage combat. Once or twice a week, we all attend a show together and then discuss and write about it in our Dramatic Criticism class. Our schedules definitely keep us busy, but we all somehow find time to go on plenty of tourist adventures, explore the shopping and pubs nearby, and see lots of theatre on our own.

I'm very excited to spend my fall break in Paris, take a weekend trip to visit a friend in Brussels, and just soak up the second half of the semester here in London. I'm learning so much about theatre, not to mention the history of this incredible city. Then in December it'll be back to the States, home for the holidays, and off to Chicago to finish up my junior year!

Brianna Ely (2011)

Brianna will be the new keyboardist for "Change of Heart" a Tribute to Heart, and the keyboardist for "Women of Rock" a Tribute to Heart, Pat Benatar, Stevie Nicks, Joan Jett, and Linda Ronstadt and Blondie. Barb Ely, here mom said, "I am so proud and totally excited to have her in a band with me and my sister. She will now be playing throughout the year at Fairs and Festivals, opening for bands such as Little River Band, 38 Special, Grand Funk, ELO, and more!"

Brianna's first gig will be on New Year's Eve at "The Pavilion" inside the Ameristar. She will be performing alongside "Liverpool" a Tribute to the Beatles, and "Revelation", a Tribute to Journey.

"Brianna has a beautiful voice and can emulate any voice she hears." She has played piano since she was 4 years old. This will be a fantastic experience for her and she is looking forward to the challenge.



Alumni Brianna Ely (2011) and mom, Barb Ely, performing together at last year's Oakhillpalooza in Linden Square.

POST GRADUATE

Matthew Hildebrand (1986-1990)

Matthew attended Little Folks from 1986-1990. He now lives in Spanish Fork, Utah and works at Attensity as a Software QA Manager.

Bob Stevens (1963)

Bob graduated from Little Folks School where his teachers were Sue Meyer and Wanda Lee Kalsu (the schools founder). Little Folks gave Bob a great start. After graduating from North Kansas City High School, as a National Merit Scholar, he attended Rolla, receiving a BS in Chemical Engineering and an MS in Engineering Management.

Bob has been with Bechtel, the largest Engineering and Construction firm in the country, for the past 25 years. Bob serves as an Engineering Manager on a multi-billion dollar liquefied natural gas plant in Australia. He has lived in Mexico and Egypt and traveled to all continents, except Antarctica.

Active in leadership in various church, civic, and professional organizations, Bob is listed in Who's Who in America and was elected to the Academy of Chemical Engineers a decade ago. His hobbies include nature photography, travel, enjoying classical music, and fine wines. Bob is a Certified Sommelier (certified wine steward). He currently lives in Houston, Texas.



Alumni Jacob Eisler (2010) and Annie Miller (2003) taking in a football game at the University of Missouri - Columbia.

One Fall Day at Oakhill Day

By Ciera Trejo

As I was walking,
the wind was blowing through my hair,
and leaves were falling to the ground.

There were beautiful colors
like red, yellow, and orange.

As I was walking,
I heard the crunching of leaves
when I stepped on them.
Down the street I could smell Margarita's,
It smelled so good I could almost taste a taco.



This poem is an excerpt from the 2001-2002 student published literary magazine Oakhill Odyssey. Ciera was in sixth grade when she penned this poem.

ROOTS is published for the alumni, parent, past parent, grandparent, faculty, staff, and friend community of Oakhill Day School.

Head of School: Suzanne McCanles

Alumni Coordinator: Dorothy Beckham

Editor: Michelle McDaniel

Director of Development: Rebecca DiGerlamo

Letters and suggestions for future editions of ROOTS are welcomed and encouraged. Correspondence should be addressed to Dorothy Beckham, Alumni Coordinator at dorothy.beckham@oakhilldayschool.org.

Please send all address changes and Notifications (Marriage, birth, and death announcements) to the Development Office.

Oakhill Day School
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www.oakhilldayschool.org

ON CHERRY STREET

Familiar faces can be spotted visiting 7019 North Cherry Street throughout the year...
Maybe next time it will be you!

Alumni Daniel Miller was spotted presenting his trip to El Salvador to the current middle school Spanish students.



Alumni Evan Morris, Gibson Hanke, Harrison Feaster, and Brady McCanles (LtoR) were spotted at the Graduation Ceremony on May 21, 2015.



Alumni Darcy Bond, Amy Gruschka, Ellaina Sanders, Max Gruschka, Alex Lee, and Brady McCanles (LtoR) were spotted at the 2014 Red Barn Farm Party.



Alumni Ella Latier was spotted with her siblings at the Carnival on August 28, 2015.



Alumni Emma Kitelinger was spotted doing an observation in Ms. Ralph's class for a college course.



Alumni Shannon Hulé, Kat Puls, Harrison Feaster, Brady McCanles, and Blaine Feaster (LtoR) were spotted giving tours to prospective families at the 2015 Fall Open House.



Alumni Brady McCanles and Harrison Feaster were spotted showing off their skills at the 2015 Golf Tournament.



Got Pics? Please send any photos of yourself and alumni friends to dorothy.beckham@oakhilldayschool.org to be featured in the next On Cherry Street!



7019 N Cherry Street
Gladstone, MO 64118